

WI-330  
Franklin Hotel  
Salisbury  
Private

1930

Prominently marking the intersection of West Main and Lake streets on the west side of Salisbury's business district, the Franklin Hotel is a two-story, thirteen-bay by six-bay brick building distinguished by a series of recessed commercial fronts and arched window openings on the second floor. The principal entrance is located on the southeast corner of the old hotel, which is dated to 1930 by a large concrete plaque fixed in the top of the chamfered corner of the rectangular structure. At the second floor level there is a second concrete plaque embossed with the label "Mainlake Building." The stretcher bond street elevations are topped by a parapet wall accented with corbeled brickwork.

While housing a variety of businesses in the series of store fronts along West Main Street over the years, the two-story brick building is best known as the Franklin Hotel, where modest rooms were available to the scores traveling salesmen, sailors, and visitors who needed overnight lodging. The building was erected by the Larmar Corporation, an early twentieth century development company headed by J. H. Larmore.

## MARYLAND HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN INFORMATION

RESOURCE NAME: Franklin Hotel

MHT INVENTORY NUMBER: WI-330

## MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA

1. Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture
2. Geographic Orientation: Eastern Shore
3. Chronological/Development Period(s): Industrial-Urban Dominance  
1870-1930
4. Resource Type(s): Hotel

**Maryland Historical Trust**  
**State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

**MARYLAND INVENTORY OF**  
**HISTORIC PROPERTIES**

Survey No. WI-330

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

**1. Name** (indicate preferred name)

historic Franklin Hotel

and/or common

**2. Location**

street & number 501 West Main Street ☐ not for publication

city, town Salisbury ☐ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Wicomico

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property** (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name City of Salisbury

street & number P. O. Box 4118 telephone no.:

city, town Salisbury state and zip code MD 21801

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Wicomico County Clerk of Court Map 106, P. 3273  
liber 1164

street & number Wicomico County Courthouse folio 858

city, town Salisbury state MD 21801

**6. Representation in Existing** Historical Surveys

title

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

pository for survey records

city, town state

## 7. Description

Survey No. WI-330

### Condition

☐ excellent  
☒ good  
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unexposed

### Check one

☐ unaltered  
☒ altered

### Check one

☒ original site  
☐ moved      date of move \_\_\_\_\_

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Franklin Hotel, also known as the Mainlake Building, stands at 501 West Main Street on the west side of Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland. The two-story brick commercial block, built with a corner entrance, is oriented to the intersection of West Main and Lake streets.

Dated to 1930 by a concrete plaque, the two-story commercial block has a thirteen bay exposure on West Main Street and a six-bay exposure on Lake Street. The stretcher and common bond walls rise to a parapet roof that disguises the low sloping shed roof.

The south West Main Street elevation consists of a series of recessed commercial fronts on the first floor and thirteen evenly spaced window openings on the second floor. Each recessed commercial entrance bay is distinguished by large plate glass display windows on each side of a glazed front door. A soldier course of bricks span the commercial bays. The second floor windows, each featuring a round headed arch, are boarded up. The upper wall surface is marked by slightly corbeled brickwork under the parapet wall. The southeast corner of the building is cut in order to facilitate the corner entrance to the main commercial space. The recessed entrance door is flanked by sidelights, and the ceiling is covered with diagonal, beveled edge boards. Fixed in the wall above the entrance are two concrete plaques, one with the date "1930" and the other with the name "Mainlake Building."

The east Lake Street elevation is six bays across. A commercial entrance on the first floor has been bricked up, but the soldier course that spanned the former opening is clearly visible. The second floor is marked by six round arched windows that are currently boarded over.

The west side elevation is laid in seven to nine-course common bond with a stepped parapet wall decreasing in elevation towards the back of the building. Four boarded over windows light the second floor.

The north (rear) elevation is an asymmetrical wall of doors and windows. The brick is laid in seven to nine-course common bond. Attached to the northwest corner is a two-story concrete block addition.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. WI-330

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates	Builder/Architect
check: Applicable Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D and/or Applicable Exception: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G	
Level of Significance: <input type="checkbox"/> national <input type="checkbox"/> state <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> local	

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Prominently marking the intersection of West Main and Lake streets on the west side of Salisbury's business district, the Franklin Hotel is a two-story, thirteen-bay by six-bay brick building distinguished by a series of recessed commercial fronts and arched window openings on the second floor. The principal entrance is located on the southeast corner of the old hotel, which is dated to 1930 by a large concrete plaque fixed in the top of the chamfered corner of the rectangular structure. At the second floor level there is a second concrete plaque embossed with the label "Mainlake Building." The stretcher bond street elevations are topped by a parapet wall accented with corbeled brickwork.

While housing a variety of businesses in the series of store fronts along West Main Street over the years, the two-story brick building is best known as the Franklin Hotel, where modest rooms were available to the scores traveling salesmen, sailors, and visitors who needed overnight lodging. The building was erected by the Lamar Corporation, an early twentieth century development company headed by J. H. Larmore.

The building is a significant element of Salisbury's West Main Street business district and is qualifies for listing in *Category A*, which identifies buildings that must be preserved due to their architectural and historical significance.



WI-330  
Franklin Hotel  
West Main and Lake Streets  
Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland  
Chain of title

Map 106, Parcel 3273

1164/858

Gladys D. Church

to

City of Salisbury

Lot No. 2 as laid down on plat IDT 160/422

A J S 876/846

Larmar Corporation

to

6/1/1977

Earl C. Church  
Gladys D. Church

IDT 160/420

Mary A. Wroten

to

12/4/1929

Larmar Corporation

Lot No. 2, Surveyed for J. H. Larmore

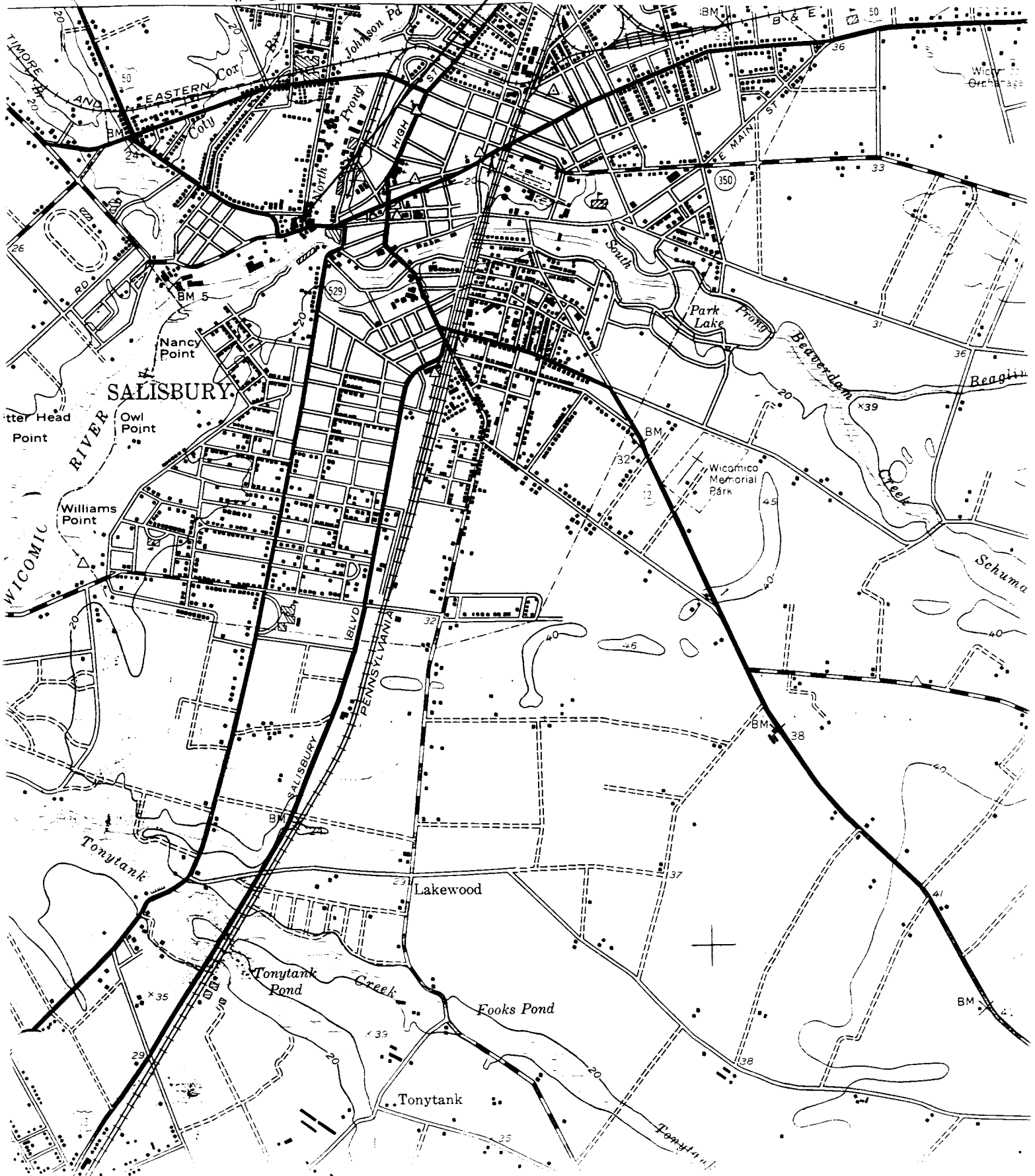
UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

CAMBRIDGE 31 MI.  
VIENNA 15 MI.

447000m E

WI-330  
Franklin Hotel

Salisbury, Maryland Quadrangle  
1942







Pravilnik 44.

SOUTH ELEVATION

182



W1-330

FRANCINE

SALISBURY, WILMINGTON Co., PA.

SOUTHEAST ELEVATION

1/99, PAID TOWN PROBLEM

NEG. / DR. 1/3/99 TOWN

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